

ABSTRACT

An apparatus and method for the automatic or semi-automatic acquisition of multiple
5 photographs and VIN-coded information about an automobile. In one embodiment, four height-
adjustable, digital cameras are positioned on four corner posts defining a work center. A vehicle
is pulled into the center until a stop indicator light is triggered, at which time an attendant scans
the bar coded VIN number and reviews the proposed photographs of the vehicle at a work center
computer. Once the photographs and data are acceptable, the attendant triggers a download of
10 the information to local and industry databases. Alternate embodiments include Alternate
embodiments include work centers with different post configurations, manual entry systems, and
completely automated centers.